

**TIDEWATER REGIONAL
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
APRIL 25, 2006
MINUTES**

PRESENT

Renee Edwards, LHRC Member
Mary Butler, LHRC Member
Marge House, LHRC Member
Debra Goldstein, Senior Vice Presidents ABS LINCS Virginia
Fran Neaves, ABS LINCS Risk Manager
Reginald T. Daye, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS
Henry Hopkins, Supervisor, Home Based Supervisor, First Home Care
Sara Smith, Clinical Director, Group Homes, First Home Care
Chris Hummel, PhD, Clinical Director, The Pines
Heather Fisher, Associate Administrator, Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center
Millie Davis, Director, Crawford First Education
Kyle German, Education Coordinator, Alternative Behavioral Services
Amanda Steeves, Secretary, The Pines
Evelyn Brown, LHRC Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Chris Boyd, LHRC Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Renee Edwards.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The minutes for the meetings of January 24th and March 21, 2006 were reviewed. Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ms. House seconded the motion. All members present voted to accept the minutes.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Topic: Recommendation to Accept Candidate's Application for Membership

Action: The committee members unanimously voted to accept the application of Mr. James Overton, bringing the number of committee members up to 5.

B. Topic: Request for Affiliation of Crawford Day Treatment Program

Discussion: Mr. Davis and Mr. German reviewed the Student Handbook, Behavioral Management Plan, Policies and Procedures, and Rules of Conduct for the Crawford Day School. Mr. Daye recommended the addition of policies regarding alcohol, guns, smoking, and the dress code be added to the Code of Conduct. Mr. Daye also suggested that a revision be made to the Complaint Process in the Handbook to state that complaints are reported Mr. Daye's office within 24 hours and reported to the LHRC in the form of statistical numbers. Mr. Daye recommended several revisions to the Time Out Policy, including a time of limit of 30 minutes per episode, a provision for what happens if the child/adolescent does not calm down during that time frame, and a statement that the program does not utilize seclusion.

Action: A motion was made by Ms. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Butler to accept the affiliation of Crawford Day Treatment Program. All members present voted approval.

Ms. Butler made a motion to accept the documents with the above noted revisions, and that these revisions to the Code of Conduct and the Time Out Policy are reviewed at the next meeting. Ms. House made the second. All members voted to approve the motion.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Topic: Request for Affiliation of Oyster Point Academy with Tidewater Regional LHRC

Discussion: Mr. German reviewed the Behavioral Management Plan, Policies and Procedures, Rules of Conduct, and Physical Restraint Policy. Questions were raised about how Oyster Point Academy differed from Crawford Day Treatment Program and how staff would be trained to acclimate to the changes. Mr. Daye recommended the same revisions be made to the Code of Conduct and Time Out Policy as noted with Crawford Day Treatment Program above. He recommended adding a statement about consequences in the Code of Conduct so they would be consistent across the board.

Mr. Daye requested organizational charts and contact names for each program. Mr. German will provide organizational charts to Mr. Daye and a letter with contact names for each site.

Action: Ms. Butler made a motion to accept the request for affiliation of Oyster Point Academy. Second was made by Ms. Edwards. The members voted to approve the motion.

Ms. Edwards made a motion that the Code of Conduct and Time Out Policy be revised to reflect the same changes for Crawford Day Treatment Program noted

above, and that these revisions be reviewed at the next meeting. Ms. House provided the second. The members voted approval of this motion.

B. Topic: Treatment Success and Coping Plan

Discussion: Dr. Hummel introduced the Treatment Success and Coping Plan that will be piloted on YWC, CLP Boys, and the Adolescent Units. This is a way to try to decrease the number of physical hold interventions with residents.

Action: The committee voted to accept the plan for implementation with the recommendation that Dr. Hummel return to the next meeting to report how it is working on the test units.

C. Topic: Revised Tidewater Regional LHRC Bylaws

Discussion: Mr. Daye presented the revisions to the Bylaws. He stated one revision was made to clarify the process of removal of a committee member. The other revision more clearly defined a quorum.

Action: Ms. Edwards made a motion to accept the revisions to the Bylaws. Second was made by Ms House. All members present voted to accept the revised Bylaws.

V. STANDING REPORTS

A. General Information

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein announced ABS LINCS Virginia has become a legal name, replacing First Home Care. She reported that Troy Bailey has joined The Pines as Senior Administrator, and Heather Fisher is now the Associate Administrator at VBPC. Ms. Goldstein was pleased to report that 59 very good applicants were hired during the “Hiring Extravaganza” held last Saturday. The Pines is planning to hire a person with community-based background for Staff Development to join the two Staff Development positions currently in place. Ms. Goldstein stated that due to the high acuity level of current residents The Pines is developing significant program changes on the Young Men’s Center.

VBPC: Ms. Fisher announced the new Director of Nursing is Ruth Moyer. VBPC continues to explore its options for programs for their all-adult population. Ms. Fisher announced VBPC will become a non-smoking facility. Ms. Fisher and Mr. Daye discussed issues regarding the non-smoking policy and involuntary commitments.

B. Seclusion and Restraint Reports

VBPC: Ms. Fisher presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for VBPC. In January the total number of events was 13; in February there were 12; and in March there were 21. There was one chemical restraint in January and one in March. The percentage of total events to total patient days in January was 0.53%, in February 0.53%, and in March 0.85%.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for The Pines. For all three campuses during the reporting period of January, February and March 2006, there was a total of 420 physical holds with a percentage to total patient days of 1.44%. In the same reporting period there were 126 mechanical restraints with a percentage to total patient days of .43%. There were a total of 40 seclusions with a percentage to total patient days of .14%. The total number of events for the reporting period was 586. The percentage to total patient days was 2.01%.

B. Reports on Structured Living Protocol

VBPC: Ms. Fisher reported no episodes of SLP during the reporting period of January, February, and March 2006.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein stated there were no episodes of Structured Living during this reporting period. Mr. Daye clarified that The Pines' request for variance for SLP was approved for two years in July 2005, and a status report on the use of SLP is due at the July 2006 LHRC meeting.

C. Overview of Allegation Reports

First Home Care: Ms. Smith stated there were three allegations to report from First Home Care.

VBPC: Ms. Fisher reported a total of 12 complaints during this reporting period. All were reported to the Human Rights Office and all were resolved at the local level.

The Pines: Ms. Neaves stated there were a total of 129 allegations reported to the Office of Human Rights during this reporting period. In all instances appropriate action was taken and investigations were completed.

D. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Ms. Butler made a motion that the committee go into Executive Session, pursuant to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely to review patient information from The Pines Residential Treatment Center and Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, pursuant to the regulations.

Action: Second was made by Ms. House. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Reconvened in Open Session: Upon reconvening in Open Session, members of the Tidewater Regional LHRC unanimously certified to the best of their knowledge that only public business matters exempt from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session were discussed in accordance to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4).

Action: No recommendations were made.

V. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Edwards made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Butler seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Evelyn Brown
Recording Secretary

Renee Edwards
LHRC Member